



Climate change and infectious disease

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| Author(s): | Fries BC, Mayer J |
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Abstract:

Due to increasing CO₂ emissions and other greenhouse gases, accelerated global warming is predicted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climatic Change (IPCC). These climate changes are anticipated to have a long-term impact on marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Rising sea levels are predicted to flood low-lying coastal regions, and fresh water resources could become scarce leading to development of desert-like regions. This will greatly affect the survival of fragile plant species, wild animals, and other ecosystems all of which could directly or indirectly affect survival and or spread of pathogens and their vectors. Although these changes will undoubtedly have an impact on human health, the uncertainties in climate models, as well as predictive epidemiology, hamper accurate predictions on the impact of global warming on public health. In addition, the absence of experimental models that demonstrate dose dependent effects between climate change and disease gives ammunition to those in doubt.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2669218>

Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Researcher

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Sea Level Rise

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Freshwater, Ocean/Coastal

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: General Infectious Disease

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified